

Article - Health - General

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§20–1401.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Advisory Committee” means the Health Equity Resource Community Advisory Committee.
- (c) “Commission” means the Community Health Resources Commission.
- (d) “Community health worker” has the meaning stated in § 13–3701 of this article.
- (e) “Federally qualified health center” has the meaning stated in § 24–1301 of this article.
- (f) “Fund” means the Health Equity Resource Community Reserve Fund established under § 20–1407 of this subtitle.
- (g) “Health care practitioner” means an individual or, collectively, a group of individuals working together within the same practice, each of whom is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by law to provide health care services under the Health Occupations Article.
- (h) “Health disparity” means a particular type of health difference, such as a difference in rates of hypertension, heart disease, asthma, diabetes, substance abuse, mental health disorders, and maternal and infant mortality, that:
 - (1) Is closely linked with social, economic, or environmental disadvantage; and
 - (2) Adversely affects groups of individuals who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health care based on their:
 - (i) Race or ethnicity;
 - (ii) Religion;
 - (iii) Socioeconomic status;
 - (iv) Gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation;

(v) Age;

(vi) Mental health status;

(vii) Cognitive, sensory, or physical disability;

(viii) Geographic location; or

(ix) Other characteristic historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.

(i) “Health Equity Resource Community” means a contiguous geographic area that:

(1) Demonstrates measurable and documented health disparities and poor health outcomes;

(2) Is small enough to allow for the incentives offered under this subtitle to have a significant impact on improving health outcomes and reducing health disparities, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and disability related health disparities;

(3) Is designated by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle; and

(4) Has a minimum population of 5,000 residents.

(j) “Hospital” has the meaning stated in § 19–301 of this article.

(k) “Institution of higher education” has the meaning stated in § 10–101 of the Education Article.

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